एक्वायर करते हैं । बाजाफ्ता मशीनों के जरिए भी रखरखाव का काम किया जाता है ।

Strategic plans to counter drought

*62. SHRIMOTILALVORA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:†

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked on strategic plans to counter the drought in the coming year, in dry State like Rajasthan, Gujarat, M.R etc.:

(b) if so, the highlights of such a plan;

(c) if not, whether Government realize the planning to counter drought conditions needs to be done in advance; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to protect the standing crops when the drought conditions arise this summer?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (d) Measures to protect crops from drought this year or to deal with the situation if a drought recurs in the 'coming year[1] require short term measures through Contingency Plans to be drawn up and implemented by the State Governments concerned, with Central Government extending assistance whenever required.

For States like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat considerable area has remained unsown even in Rabi due to the lingering effects of drought. For area which were sown, however, the State Governments have made adequate arrangements to provide irrigation and other inputs including supply of electricity for operation of pumps and tube-wells. No serious damage to such crops, is, therefore, apprehended during the "summer months", unless there are large scale diversions of water for irrigation, for drinking water purposes.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Santosh Bagrodla.

Similarly, in the event of an aberration in the next monsoon (in the 'coming year'), Contingency Plans exists in these and other States for resorting to late sown early maturing alternate crops requiring less water (about which detailed guidelines of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) exist), cultivation of fodder crops, measures for employment generation and emergency supply of water etc. In the event of damage to crops, benefits under Crop Insurance Scheme (to State subscribing to the scheme) and relief assistance will also be available.

Strategic Plans to counter drought on the other hand are long-term measures to moderate effects of drought. All programmes that seek to ensure sustainable development and improvements in environment from part of such a strategic plan. Attention may in particular be invited to the following schemes of the Central Government which seek to bring eco-systemic improvements and water conservation as measures to deal with droughts on long term basis:-

(i) Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP);

(ii) Desert Development Programme (DDP);

(iii) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NDDPRA); (iv) Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP); (v) Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP); (vi) Integrated Afforestation and Eco-development Project Scheme (IAEPS**).** SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the usual practice is that the reply should come in the sequence of a,b,c and d. But, here the last question has been answered first. Anyway, it is just for your general information.

It has been mentioned in the reply, "In the event of damage to crops, benefits under Crop Insurance Scheme (to State subscribing to the scheme) and relief assistance will also be available." I would like to know from the hon. Minister the number of States which have subscribed to the Crop Insurance Scheme. What steps have you taken to encourage those States which have not subscribed to this Scheme? I would also like to know whether the Government has directed the Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices to recommend payment of compensation, either in cash or in any other form, to the farmers in view of drought.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Around 19 States have subscribed to the Crop Insurance Scheme. The major States which have not subscribed to this Crop Insurance Scheme are: Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, and some other States of the North Eastern region. We are requesting the States like, Rajasthan etc., which are prone to natural clamities, to subscribe to this Crop Insurance Scheme.As far as assistance to be given by the CACP is concerned, it had recommended that in view of the drought situation, additional money should be paid for Kharif, Rabi, Paddy, and other crops also. It had suggested that because of the drought situation, additional assistance of Rs. 10 per quintal for wheat, and Rs. 10 per quintal for mustard should be given. It is in addition to what the CACP normally recommends. The Government has accepted those recommendations?

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, can I put'another question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No.

श्री बालकवि बैरागी : सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय कृषि मंत्री महोदय से यह कहना चाहता हूं कि आपने जो उत्तर मे विवरण दिया हैं, इसमें आपने रबी के मौसम और रबी की फसलों को लेकर एक वाक्य लिखा है। उसमें आपने मध्य प्रदेश और राजस्थान का उल्लेख भी किया है । आपने बताया है कि जिन क्षेत्रों में बुआई हुई, उन क्षत्रों के लिए राज्य सरकारों ने पम्पों और नलकूपों के परिचालन के लिए बिजली आपूर्ति सहित सिंचाई और अन्य आदान मुहैया कराने के लिए पर्याप्त प्रबंध किए हैं । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने जो पर्याप्त प्रबंध किए और आपने जो नीचे स्कीम्स बताई हैं, उनमें विसंगतियों को देखते हुए केन्द्र की सरकार ने इन दोनों प्रदेशों के बारे में क्या सहायता की, इसका क्या आप कोई स्पष्ट उत्तर दे सकेंगे ?

श्री अजित सिंह : आप उन स्कीम्स के बारे में अगर सहायता पूछना चाहते हैं तो हमारे पास यह स्टेटवाइज तो नहीं है । इस तरह की बहुत सी स्कीम्स हैं ।

श्री बालकवि बैरागी : सर, मैंने दोनों स्टेट्स का नामजद पूछा है और आपने उत्तर भी नामजद दिया है । इसलिए मैं चाहूंगा कि दोनों स्टेट्स के बारे में ...

श्री अजित सिंह : अगर आप लोग टर्म स्कीम्स पूछ रहे हैं कि पानी की जो लिस्टिड हैं ? उसमें डेजर्ट डेवलपमेंट वगैरह की, वे लोंग टर्म्स स्कीम हैं ।

श्री बालकवि बैरागी : इस साल रबी को लेकर ही आपने उत्तर दिया है और उसी को लेकर मैंने पूछा है ।

SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, drought is now prevalent throughout the country. Though the hon. Minister has given some information in the reply, he has not specified what steps are being taken to contain the drought. Secondly, the State of Karnataka is reeling under severe drought.The State Government of Karnataka has, time and again, requested the Central Government to provide assistance, but, uptill now, very little assistance has been provided. Therefore, I would like to know, through you, from the hon. Minister when he is going to act on a war-footing basis to deal with this situation. When is he going to respond to the request made by the State Government of Karnataka? What steps have been initiated so far?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Sir, this year, from the National Contingency Fund, almost Rs. 190 crores have been sanctioned to the State Government of Karnataka to deal with the drought situation. Besides that, Calamity Relief Fund is provided to each State. Karnataka is one of the States which has been provided most of the money. We are arso providing foodgrains to them, and it will continue till the end of June.

श्री सभापति : आप परसों नहीं थे वरना यह क्वेश्चन करने की जरूरत ही नहीं पड़ती ।

Grants and aids to fraudulent educational institutions

*63. SHRI K:B. KRISHNA MURTHY:†

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there were many fraudulent universities, colleges and schools in Southern India that were getting grants and aid from Government;

(b) if so, number of such schools, colleges and universities receiving aid from Government have closed down during the past three years;

(c) whether some schools and colleges are still receiving aid but are not operational; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take to keep a check on such fraudulent schools and colleges?

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri K.B. Krishna Murthy.